MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

5 MAY 1981

Lebanon

Israel on Missiles--Jerusalem radio reported that U.S. Ambassador to Israel Samuel Lewis delivered a message from President Ronald Reagan to Israeli Prime Minister Menahem Begin asking Israel's leader to allow the United States more time to pursue diplomatic efforts to induce Syria to withdraw its newly installed SAM missiles from Lebanon. Another radio report said the United States has asked Israel to reduce its activity in Lebanon in return for a withdrawal of the Syrian missiles. However, the radio later said that Prime Minister Begin strongly denied this report. In an IDF radio interview, Begin said his government will deliver a written reply to President Reagan's message. He confirmed that the Syrians have deployed three missile batteries inside Lebanon and said they have also introduced additional missiles, including SAM-2's, on the Syrian-Lebanese border. Although Jerusalem radio said Begin told reporters that U.S.-Israeli understanding over Lebanon is greater than ever before, a radio correspondent said in an earlier report that the Israeli Government has become impatient at the failure of U.S. diplomatic efforts to persuade the Syrians to withdraw the missiles.

Syrian Comment--A Damascus radio commentary said the red and green lines referred to by Israeli and U.S. circles are only "a creation of their own imaginations" since Arabs cannot be dictated to by the United States. The daily TISHRIN, reviewed by the radio, said the U.S.-Israeli furor over Syrian measures in Lebanon shows that Syria is right to say that Lebanon's "security is part of its security and that any harm done to Lebanon will affect Syria." TISHRIN ridicules the "peculiar U.S.-Israeli logic," specifically as voiced by Secretary of State Alexander Haig during hs recent visit to the region, that since "Israeli security is the crux of U.S. policy in the Middle East," the United States and Israel "have the right to order Syria not only to withdraw its missiles from Lebanon and permit the isolationist forces to expand their enclave in the direction of the Al-Biqa' plain, but also to clear the Al-Qunaytirah, Dar'a, As-Suwayda' and Damascus provinces of their populations."

Beirut Meetings--Syrian Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam arrived in Beirut on 4 May, Beirut radio reported, where he resumed talks with Lebanese leaders. The radio reported that in the evening Khaddam, President Ilyas Sarkis and Lebanese Government officials received a delegation of independent Maronite deputies that included Public Works and Transport Minister Ilyas al-Hirawi. Afterward, Al-Hirawi told the radio that the meeting paid great attention to the question of Zahlah. Voice of Lebanon radio reported that since his arrival in Lebanon Khaddam has stressed President Hafiz al-Asad's desire for an end to the fighting and has emphasized that Syria wants a dialogue with all parties and does not want to help one group defeat another.

Saudi Message--Riyadh radio reported that Saudi King Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz has sent an important telegram to President Reagan regarding the current situation in Lebanon.

Military Situation--Beirut radio said the capital was calm during the morning of 4 May, but Voice of Lebanon radio said firing broke out along the contact lines during the afternoon. According to clandestine Voice of Palestine radio, Israeli aircraft carried out reconnaissance flights over the Al-Biqa' region. The radio also reported heavy shelling of Arnun Castle in the south, while AFP, citing correspondents in the region, reported that Israeli armored concentrations gathered in the east of the Christian-held border strip and have been moving toward the north.

Iran-Iraq Conflict

Military Situation--Both Iranian and Iraqi military communiques broadcast by Tehran and Baghdad radios reported clashes in the Dezful region. While Tehran radio reported that

Iranian forces repulsed an Iraqi offensive in the area, Baghdad claimed that 179 Iranians were killed in two clashes and the remainder of the Iranian units were forced to flee. Tehran radio also reported an Iranian attack near Marivan in which 100 Iraqis were killed and an Iraqi MiG downed. It said Iranian aircraft attacked Iraqi positions south of Susangerd, while Iraqi forces continued to shell Abadan, Ahvaz and Dezful. Tehran radio said fighting continued on various fronts in Kermanshah Province and in Abadan and Khuninshahr.

Ahvaz Front Statement--An official of the Arab Front for the Liberation of Ahvaz told the London-based AL-'ARAB newspaper that since all factions in Ahvaz have declared unity, the front will now work to "liberate" the territory of Ahvaz. According to INA, which reported the statement, the official said that Ahvaz was annexed to Iran by force of arms and that its Arab population has no political freedom and is not allowed to use the Arabic language. Noting that the Iraqi Army, in cooperation with the fighters of the Ahvaz front, has liberated large areas of Ahvaz, he praised the Iraqi position on the "just cause" of the Arab people of Ahvaz.

Iran-Kuwait

Citing JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI, Tehran radio's Arabic service reported that Iranian prime ministerial adviser Mohammad Hashemi-Rafsanjani said that a U.S.-owned research ship leased by Kuwait that was seized by Iran last week had ignored warnings to stay out of Iranian territorial waters. According to AFP, Hashemi-Rafsanjani told the newspaper KEYHAN that the ship will not be returned until Kuwait apologizes for violating Iranian territorial waters. KUNA reported that Kuwaiti Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs 'Abd al-'Aziz Husayn said the ship, which was conducting a survey in Kuwaiti waters, was seized because of a misunderstanding. He added that Kuwait is holding contacts with Iranian authorities for the release of the ship.

Oman

In an interview published in the 2 May edition of the Paris-based weekly AL-MUSTAQBAL, Omani Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id proposed that non-European states that are of strategic importance to Western security be granted membership in NATO as observers.

Libya

The Lebanese paper AS-SAFIR, as reviewed by KUNA, stated that during his recent trip to the Soviet Union, Libyan leader Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi obtained a Soviet pledge of increased support for Libya and Syria in their fight against Israel. KUNA did not specify what form the support is to take.

FBIS DAILY REPORT

CONTENTS

South Asia

Vol VIII No 086 *5 May 1981*

MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW i

AFGHANISTAN

Group Issues Statement on Arrest in Pakistan C 1
Two Professional Terrorists Given Death Sentences C 1

INDIA

Gandia Visits Riot-Hit Town; BSF Deployed E 1
Leaves on 3-Nation Tour E 1
Rao on Afghanistan, Nonaligned Visit to Mideast E 1
Discusses Pakistan, Indian Ocean E 2
Meghalaya Chief Minister Submits Resignation E 2
Increased Nuclear Power Generation Planned E 2

IRAN

Tudeh Secretary General on Party Activities I 1
Rafsanjani on Press, Political Party Bills I 1
3-Man Committee Spokesman Reviews Meeting I 2
Further Details I 3
Raja'i Chairs Council of Ministers Session I 3
Raja'i Interviewed on Relations With Japan I 4
Tehran Views Gulf States' Cooperation Council I 4
Inventions, Progress Since Revolution Praised I 6
Tehran Police Official on Rising Crime Rate I 7
AFP: Guards Injured by Rioting Women Prisoners I 7
Tehran Rebuts Iraqi TV Claims on Dead Iranians I 8
Iraqi Mujahidin Attacks on Kirkuk Reported I 8
Communique 492 on 3-4 May Military Activity I 8
Guards Report on Recent Operations in South, West I 9
Gendarmerie Forces Destroy Kan-e Sakht Post I 10
Flood Damage to Kerman Wheat, Livestock Noted I 10

GROUP ISSUES STATEMENT ON ARREST IN PAKISTAN

LD042116 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1530 GMT 4 May 81

[Statement by the Peace, Friendship and Solidarity Organization of Afghanistan--date not given]

[Text] The Friendship, Peace and Solidarity Organization of Afghanistan expresses its profound concern and resentment over the arrest and continued detention of Mozafar 'Ali Khan, deputy of the World Peace Council, head of the Pakistani Peace Committee and director of the (?NEW) TIMES printed in Lahore.

The arrest of this senior [word indistinct] of the world's peace movements and hero of the reclamation of democracy in Pakistan is a wasteful endeavor that the dictatorial militarist regime of Pakistan has carried out to strangle the voice of criticism and opposition of the Pakistani broad masses against the militarist government and its increasing alignment with imperialism and neocolonialism.

The use of cruel strangulation methods by the leaders in Islamabad against the best sons of the people of Pakistan--that is, those who oppose the war strategy in the region and are serious supporters of peace and goodneighborliness--is the immediate result of the broad military assistance to the militarist lackeys of Pakistan pledged by the Reagan administration in collaboration with Chinese hegemonism and reactionary Arabs, who are obedient servants of imperialism.

The policy of rearming Pakistan, started by the blasphemous union of Washington and Beijing, not only poses a serious danger to the peace of the region--South and Southeast Asia, the Persian Gulf and the Middle East--but has encouraged Gen Ziaul Haq to (?crush) all democratic and progressive forces in Pakistan.

The Peace, Friendship and Solidarity Organization of Afghanistan, while condemning the arrest of Mozafar 'Ali Khan and other democratic elements in Pakistan, expresses its solidarity with all peace-loving democrats of Pakistan and supports their demands for the immediate end to the strangulation of Pakistan and the release of all political prisoners.

TWO PROFESSIONAL TERRORISTS GIVEN DEATH SENTENCES

GF041918 Kabul in English to South Asia 1530 GMT 4 May 81

[Text] A source of the special revolutionary court reports that two professional terrorists of the gang of criminal Golboddin named Bahador and (?Fahimollah), residents of Kuhestan District of Parvan Province who used to commit repeated acts of terrorism and disrupt the peaceful lives of the families in the dead of night as well as acts of robbery and looting of the public property of the noble people of Kuhestan District of Parvan Province, were given death sentences in accordance with the provision of the penal laws after confession to the above charges.

These sentences have been carried out in accordance with the final paragraph of article 58 of the fundamental principles of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan.

GANDHI VISITS RIOT-HIT TOWN; BSF DEPLOYED

BK041617 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 4 May 81

[Text] Prime Minister Mrs Indira Gandhi, who arrived in Patna from New Delhi this afternoon, has left for curfew-bound Biharsharif in Nalanda District by road. She is accompanied by Railway Minister Kedar Pandey, Bihar Governor A.R. Kidwai and Chief Minister Dr Jagganath Mishra.

State Chief Secretary P.P. Nair told the All-India Radio Patna correspondent this afternoon that the death toll in group clashes in Nalanda District has gone up to 36.

Meanwhile, a Border Security Force batallion has been airlifted from Delhi to Biharsharif to help maintain law and order. It has been placed at the disposal of the state government for deployment.

The prime minister is expected to return to New Delhi late tonight.

Leaves on 3-Nation Tour

BK050748 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0730 GMT 5 May 81

[Text] Prime Minister Mrs Indira Gandhi left New Delhi this morning for Geneva on the first leg of a three-nation tour. She will later visit Kuwait and the UAE. Tomorrow, the prime minister will deliver the key-note address to the world health assembly in Geneva. During her 4-day stay in Switzerland, Mrs Gandhi will go to the capital Berne, where she will meet the president of the Swiss Confederation.

Later, Mrs Indira Gandhi will go to Kuwait and then to the UAE. In both countries, she will have an exchange of views with their leaders on matters of mutual interest.

Developments in the gulf region is expected to figure prominently. India has extensive economic relations with both Kuwait and the UAE. A large number of Indian professionals, technicians and workers are engaged in a variety of projects in both the countries.

The prime minister is scheduled to meet the Indian community in these two countries. She is also expected to meet the heads of the Indian missions in that region in order to get a first-hand assessment about developments in the area and the prospects of further expansion of India's relations with these two countries. The prime minister is scheduled to return to the capital on the 13th of this month.

RAO ON AFGHANISTAN, NONALIGNED VISIT TO MIDEAST

BK041615 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 4 May 81

[Text] External Affairs Minister Narasimha Rao told the Rajya Sabha today that the Afghanistan problem was about to be solved at one stage because of India's initiatives. It did not bear fruit because some powers which wanted to make it a global issue took the matter to the United Nations. Replying to the 2-day debate on the working of his ministry, Mr Rao said the resolution passed by the United Nations could not be acted upon. This has also blocked all other initiatives.

He denied the allegation that India has deviated from the Nehru path of solving international issues through negotiations. Mr Rao reiterated India's stand that there can only be a political solution to the Afghanistan problem.

He said the present government had maintained that the Afghan people will solve their internal differences without outside interferences and expressed the hope that the Soviet troops will be withdrawn. But to demand an immediate, unconditional withdrawal of the troops will not solve the problem, he added. On the Iran-Iraq issue, Mr Rao informed the house that the peace panel of the nonaligned foreign ministers will again visit the two countries in a few days to continue its efforts to bring about an amicable settlement. About India's relations with Pakistan, the external affairs minister declined to say anything at the moment, as he said he will be going there in about a month. He said he would not like to create an impression that he has already made up his mind. On Sino-Indian relations, Mr Rao said the Chinese foreign minister is visiting India next month when bilateral and other issues between the two countries will be discussed.

Discusses Pakistan, Indian Ocean

BK050642 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 5 May 81

[Text] External Affairs Minister Narasimha Rao has reaffirmed India's continuing commitment to normalize and nurture good relations with Pakistan. He told Parliament's consultative committee for his ministry in New Delhi yesterday this is the main objective of his visit to Pakistan in the first week of June. Members expressed concern at the flow of sophisticated arms into Pakistan. Mr Rao told them that this is detrimental to the stability and peace of the region. India would continue to voice its caution against any action which may result in an arms race in the subcontinent.

Mr Narasimha Rao also told the committee that the proposed conference on the Indian Ocean, which was scheduled to be held in Colombo in May, may be delayed because of procedural difficulties and the U.S. attitude.

About west Asia and the Gulf, the foreign minister drew the attention of the members to the declaration of the Gulf countries that the security of the region should primarily be their own responsibility. India wants to encourage this consensus in the region, he added.

MEGHALAYA CHIEF MINISTER SUBMITS RESIGNATION

BK011613 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 1 May 81

[Text] Meghalaya Chief Minister B.B. Lyngdoh today submitted his resignation as the leader of the ruling United Meghalaya Permanent Democratic Forum [UMPDF]. According to the chief minister, Captain W.A. Sangma will be sworn in as chief minister on the 8th of this month. The changeover of the leadership is in pursuance of the agreement arrived at among the constituents of the UMPDF on 17 April 1979 at the time of its formation.

INCREASED NUCLEAR POWER GENERATION PLANNED

BK040934 Delhi ISI Diplomatic Information Service in English 0923 GMT 4 May 81

[Text] Six additional reactors each of 230 megawatt capacity based on a design adopted by the reactor under construction at Narora will come up during the sixth plan. An outlay of over rupees 10 billion has been provided in the plan for this purpose. The nuclear power programme for the next 20 years includes ten such reactors followed by twelve reactors of 500 megawatts each. A massive programme of generating an additional 80,000 megawatts of electrical power has been envisaged by the year 2000. It means that about 4,000 megawatts will be added every year during the next 20 years, thus raising total power generation from the present 30,000 megawatts to 110,000 megawatts. Nuclear stations will contribute 10,000 megawatts, while 30,000 megawatts will be obtained from hydro-electric and 40,000 megawatts from coal fired stations.

TUDEH SECRETARY GENERAL ON PARTY ACTIVITIES

NC041544 Paris AFP in English 1507 GMT 4 May 81

[By Dominique Garraud]

[Text] Tehran, 4 May (AFP)--Iranian communists in the staunchly pro-Khomeyni Tudeh Party have spent the past nine months in a political limbo: Although their organisation is authorised, their operations are semi-clandestine.

The party no longer has official bureaus. Its Tehran headquarters has been occupied since July by Hezbollahi religious extremists.

Nor does it hold rallies or demonstrations. On May 1, for instance, it simply expressed "backing" for a pro-Khomeyni rally organised by unionists in a big stadium, which at one stage echoed to the cries of "Alloho Akbar"--God is the greatest.

Yet, its leadership believes that the Tudeh Party enjoys more freedom now than it ever did in the days of Prime Minister Mohammad Mossadeq, whose liberal government was overthrown in 1953 when the ex-shah reasserted control.

Secretary-General Nurreddin Kianuri said in an interview with AFP that the relatively small number of Tudeh militants--the party newspaper MARDOM has a 60,000 print-run--kept a low profile to avoid "provocations". But he stressed that the party line, faithfully reflected in Tudeh publications, consisted in creating a sole popular front in league with pro-Khomeyni "religious revolutionaries".

The Tudeh claims to have succeeded in treading a genuine middle line between its acceptance of the Khomeyni regime's social and political philosophies and of Soviet-aligned viewpoints on international issues.

The party approves of the Iranian catchphrase for self-sufficiency, "Neither East nor West", saying its national, patriotic meaning does not exclude building friendly relations with socialist countries which support the Iranian revolution.

The Tudeh Party, Mr Kianuri said, was the first to oppose the "Iraqi aggression," which set off the Gulf war eight months ago. He was convinced that Moscow would not arm the Iraqis, and justified the recent Iraqi-Soviet talks as demonstrating the Kremlin's wish to cooperate with every country in the world.

The best guarantee for the party's future, its leader said, was Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni, whose role as guide of Iran's Islamic revolution was accepted by the Tudeh for its main qualities--"anti-imperialism, antidespotic, supporter of freedom and democracy".

Tudeh officials decline to speculate on their prospects in post-Khomeyni Iran. But they say conditions are now right for the creation of a major Iranian communist party, despite daily anti-communist press commentaries attacking "counter-revolutionary activism" by "Russian-American groups".

RAFSANJANI ON PRESS, POLITICAL PARTY BILLS

LD042020 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 4 May 81

[Interview with Majlis Speaker Hashemi-Rafsanjani in Tehran by Voice and Vision correspondent on 4 May--recorded]

[Excerpt] [Question] My final question concerns and is related to the recent incidents created by various groups in some parts of the country.

In order to prevent a repeat of these incidents, don't you think the reading of the bill relating to the political parties, groups and the societies' activities should be expedited?

[Answer] These incidents have brought pressure on the Majlis to conclude as soon as possible its consideration of the political party bill as well as the press bill. I have been informed by the Majlis committee handling the two bills that the committee is considering the last sections of these bills and I expect them to be presented to the Majlis for the final reading next week or, at the latest, the week after. We consider this to be essential. Of course, this should not be understood to mean that we plan to impose new limits on the activities of the press and political parties. What we have in mind is to clarify the issue, to clarify their positions and their responsibilities and authority. Now that they have shown that they have no consideration whatsoever in the implementation of their demands, and no party and no person considers himself obliged, even under the war situation, to create disorder, I think the Majlis should expedite its action and the executive should prepare itself to firmly implement, without any exception, the related legislation. This would create an atmosphere in which the people would feel relieved and the press and the political parties would know their limits.

3-MAN COMMITTEE SPOKESMAN REVIEWS MEETING

LD041034 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0330 GMT 4 May 81

[Text] According to a PARS report, the three-man committee for the settlement of the dispute [among the president, the prime minister and other government authorities] met at the Interior Ministry yesterday afternoon and then sent some letters to the president and the prime minister's Public Relations Office.

Commenting afterward on the issues raised at the meeting, committee spokesman Yazdi said: The first issue raised at the meeting was a rather long letter which was forwarded to Mr Bani-Sadr. The second issue concerned a letter addressed to the committee by the superviser of the prime minister's Public Relations Office regarding an article which appeared in ENQELAB-E ESLAMI on 26 April 1981. In this letter, certain points had been raised pertaining to a bill proposed by the Majlis. This letter was discussed by the committee. The letter had asked the committee about the numerous weak points in the issues raised [presumably by the bill]; certain responses had been formulated on these points which, should the committee permit, should be published in the media.

Expressing his gratitude to the prime minister's Public Relations Office for seeking the views of the committee before having the responses published, the spokesman said: This letter was debated and it was subsequently decided to prevent publication of the said responses in the press, in accordance with the imam's request. A letter was then drafted and sent to the superviser of the prime minister's Public Relations Office.

He then added: Questions were asked of the government about irregularities and delay in its work. As the committee's secretariat was in the process of being completed, there was a certain quantity of oil available; fortunately, the matter was attended to and it was then decided to have the matters referred to the committee forwarded to the secretariat on the basis of date, unless there existed issues, the urgency of which had already been determined by the committee. [sentence as heard] Such issues would then be dealt with on the basis of priority.

Concluding his remarks, he said: As attending to the question of the press is not an issue to be dealt with in turn, it was decided at this meeting that the committee should devote the final part of each meeting to attending to the question of the press and then announce the outcome in due course.

Further Details

LD050004 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 4 May 81

[Interview with Mohammad Yazdi, spokesman for the three-man committee investigating Iranian leadership differences, with Tehran radio correspondent following 4 May session of the committee--recorded]

[Excerpt] [Question] Mr Yazdi, would you be good enough to tell us what topics were discussed at tonight's meeting?

[Answer] At the meeting we wrote a rather lengthy letter to His Excellency Mr Bani-Sadr. Then we discussed the question raised by the prime minister's Public Relations Office regarding the bill which had been referred to in the ENQELAB-E ESLAMI editorial of 16 May [as heard]. Following our dicussions we reached the conclusion that everyone has the right to express his view before a bill is approved. We wrote the following letter:

Esteemed superviser of the prime minister's Public Relations Office: Your letter of 30 April concerning the ENQELAB-E ESLAMI editorial of Sunday 26 April and your remarks have been noted. As you yourself are aware, expression of views before the approval of a bill is everyone's just right. This item is considered to be in that category. The aim of the article was not to weaken the legislative power. It is desirable to avoid wasting time. Signed by Mr Kani, Mr Shahabeddin Eshraqi and myself.

At the same time we received telephone and written enquiries as to why we are not attending to issues in the order of their priority. Last Friday we spent some time regulating the work of the secretariat and, thanks to God, we made progress. At today's meeting the first thing we did was to approve the rest of the letter addressed to His Excellency Mr Bani-Sadr in reply to his letter of 15 April. In this connection we wrote a letter to Mr Bani-Sadr, the tect of which is as follows:

In the name of God. Esteemed president, Your Excellency Mr Bani-Sadr: In the first paragraph of your letter of 15 April you made two points concerning His Excellency Mr Beheshti: First, the speech, and second, the hearing of the offense [as heard]. Since the speech was made in the 2 May inaugural session, just as yours was, we see no problem, and participation in the meeting cannot be considered as interference in the command's affairs. Regarding the second issue, if you have any documents to send us, we will examine them. The case concerning the steps taken in violation of the Constitution over the hostages has been referred to the Justice Ministry, and a comprehensive reply was given earlier on the issue of Habib Chatti. Of course, the government spokesman's reply on Israeli radio was not a correct action. We pray to God Almighty for everyone's success. Signed by Mr Kani, Mr Eshraqi and myself.

RAJA'I CHAIRS COUNCIL OF MINISTERS SESSION

LD041146 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 4 May 81

[Text] The Council of Ministers met at 0600 this morning under Prime Minister Raja'i. According to our correspondent, the meeting began with some recitations from the holy Koran. Colonel Fakuri, the minister of defense, then briefly reported on the recent victories achieved by the Islamic forces in the western sector, resulting in the heroic recapture of the Bazi Deraz heights. He spoke about the strategic importance of the area and the effect of this impressive victory, and then pointed out the low morale among Saddam's troops and the factionalism among the senior officers and the mercenary Iraqi rulers. He also spoke about the heroism and combat readiness of the Islamic Republic forces, the revolution guards corps and other Islamic forces.

The question of creating nationwide planning councils was raised by Khayyer, minister of state and superviser of the Plan and Budget Organization. The matter was discussed and debated. Final decision was deferred until the next meeting of the Council of Ministers.

The ministers of economic affairs and finance and commerce proposed appointing Mr 'Arabi as the director of central insurance, while retaining his post in state customs; Mr Baqeri was proposed as his central insurance deputy. Both appointments were approved.

In view of the decisions adopted at the 27 April meeting of the Council of Ministers, a report was submitted on the activities of the mission sent to Bandar-e 'Abbas, headed by Minister of State for Executive Affairs Nabavi, dealing with creating installations and the necessary facilities for new and old jetties, roads and a transport terminal. It was decided to allocate 60 million rials from government funds to the governor general of Hormozegan for the aforementioned projects.

RAJA'I INTERVIEWED ON RELATIONS WITH JAPAN

LD042110 Tehran in English to Europe 1930 GMT 4 May 81

[Text] Mr Raja'i, the prime minister of the Islamic Republic of Iran, in an interview with the Japanese ASAHI newspaper, while explaining the excellent situation of the Islamic combatants in the war fronts in connection with the activities of the teams probing into the Iraqi-imposed war on Iran, said: We are insisting on the fact instead of [word indistinct] to the amount of power that one has, we should look to the issue as to what the justice is.

The ASAHI reporter asked: What can Japan do in order to help to put an end to this war?

The prime minister in this regard said: We do not ask an extraordinary thing from Japan. All we want the Japanese Government to do is to evaluate, probe the issue and recognize the aggressor. Of course, we are well aware of the fact that this country with its affiliation with the power is not [word indistinct] to act according to what is essential in order to defend the oppressed and support the justice.

In regard to the relation of Iran with Japan, Mr Raja'i said: Between Iran and Japan there is at least one problem and that is you consider Iran to be independent of the East and the West. However, with the close ties and relationships of Japan with the United States, Japan cannot think of us in an independent manner.

TEHRAN VIEWS GULF STATES' COOPERATION COUNCIL

LD032304 Tehran in English to Europe 1930 GMT 3 May 81

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] Although imperialism does not seek permission for interference in the domestic affairs of Third World countries hypocritical diplomacy requires that pretexts must at least be [word indistinct] so that imperialist plotters can conceal their real intentions behind those pretexts, and so that later they can launch their direct or indirect interference wherever their interests so necessitate.

One of the pretexts required by the United States and its allies in order to intervene in the Persian Gulf region as well as in the Middle East is the preservation of the security in the region or, better yet, the preservation of the Hormuz Strait and keeping it open for the passage of giant oil tankers. This waterway is considered to be the vital vein of the industrial economy of the Western world and that of Japan.

Although the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran has repeatedly stressed that it will guarantee the opening of the strait and the free traffic of commercial ships and oil tankers, since the early days of the victory of the Islamic revolution of Iran, imperialism has attempted to confine the revolution within the framework of the political borders of Iran. Imperialism also attempted to impose a [word indistinct] on the reactionary regimes in the region so it can manipulate them in the direction of its colonialist interests in the future.

An obvious instance of these mischievous attempts was witnessed in the past (?10 days). (?A meeting was held) about the instructions given by the leader of international Zionists, Kissinger, and how these instructions were fervently welcomed by the reactionary agents. It was in the aftermath of such policies that the French news agency reported that following the convention of the last summit conference of Islamic countries in At-Ta'if, Saudi Arabia, last January, six Persian Gulf and Oman Sea littoral states decided to strengthen their political, economic, social and military cooperation and to set up a council for cooperation in the area for coordinating their efforts and for safeguarding the security of the Persian Gulf region in February this year.

Under normal circumstances any kind of cooperation among these countries which is based on mutual interest is acceptable. However, if today the security of the Persian Gulf is being threatened, one must know the threatening element which has caused such a unity is a necessary element. Whether the U.S. fleet and those of the U.S. allies considered by the leaders of the Persian Gulf littoral states as the factors for insecurity in the region. [sentence as heard] If the answer is no, why is it that they ignored intervention by the imperialist countries and implicitly agreed to the establishment of Rapid Deployment Forces? The answer to this question and many other questions of such kinds do not give clear answers as to why they are planning on the security of the Persian Gulf while the revolutionary country of Iran, which has the longest shores along it, is being ignored?

In this case, doesn't Iran have the right to consider any political, economic or military factionalism as a threat to its existence and territorial integrity? Is Iran's concern unreasonable if it regards this council for cooperation as a kind of military pact by the Persian Gulf states against its own security? In any case, past experiences of imperialist interventions in this region show that any factionalism or regionalism which is directed and instigated by foreigners will not only not bear any benefits for the deprived masses in this region, but will further intensify the process of the plundering of their national wealth. It is for this reason that one must be concerned about the coming into existence of such councils for cooperation in this sensitive part of the world.

This foreign assistance will not only intensify the prevailing crisis but will also make the [word indistinct] face the political and military factionalism which would consequently make the issue raised by the Arab world and Islam, the Palestine issue as well as the issue of the occupying regime of Quds, appear of minor importance.

If we take heed of the viewpoints of Britain and the United States as expressed in the aftermath of the announcement of the formation of the council for cooperation among the Persian Gulf littoral states and take into consideration their satisfaction over the same, we will find out that under the present circumstances when the revolutionary people of Iran has been imposed upon by a war which has lasted for over 7 months, any kind of political and economic grouping and factionalism set up in this region would be considered (?of benefit to) imperialism, so that it can strengthen its foothold once again in the region under a new mask.

The declaration that the council of cooperation among the Persian Gulf states is not a military pact only alleviates suspicion. However, is is not sufficient by itself. Those countries must explicitly clarify their position toward other events which happen in the region and which are related to world imperialism.

They must also assure the Palestine Liberation Organization as well as Syria, which is fighting against the common enemy of Islam in the forefront, that the issue of the security and the stability of the Persian Gulf region will not be discussed as the major issue, in view of the Middle East crisis, in the council for cooperation among the Persian Gulf states.

This is because, as we all know, U.S. imperialism and the occupying regime Quds have been trying for years to financially invest in an incident in the Muslim world to undermine the Palestine issue or to make it turn into a minor issue in the Muslim world. On the other hand, the present circumstance is so sensitive that any grouping or factionalism in the region will (?multiply) further discord among the Arabs, especially at the present time when the Arab world has already been divided because of the Iraqi-imposed war upon Iran. With the exception of the steadfastness member countries of Syria, Algeria and Libya, which managed to adopt a correct position, other countries were more or less trapped in the trap [?set up) by imperialism and, instead of condemning the invasion, they implicitly approved of it. In view of this matter they made the occupying regime of Quds, which is the major (?enemy) of Islamic territory, happy. This is because when the principle of invasion becomes acceptable, the occupying regime of Quds will automatically be given permission to launch its invasion in the region. It is for this reason that the revolutionary nation of Iran will never bow to various plots hatched by imperialism to make the invasion of the Middle East appear as legitimate. The revolution nation of Iran will continue to heroically resist against the enemy until they push the invader out of the country.

Furthermore, the regional grouping and factionalism can upset the whole goals of the Islamic revolution of Iran.

INVENTIONS, PROGRESS SINCE REVOLUTION PRAISED

GF041905 Tehran International Service in Urdu 1315 GMT 4 May 81

[Unattributed commentary: "The Awakening of Latent Talents in the Aftermath of the Islamic Revolution"]

[Excerpts] Before the revolution in Iran, the slaves of foreigners, who held the reins of government in their hands, used to import everything the public needed. If an inventor wanted to invent something he had to battle against so much redtape that he would abandon the idea altogether.

After the victory of the Islamic revolution, all potential inventors were provided with facilities of some sort. The result was that talented people had the opportunity to utilize their talents, and a large number of inventions emerged. No doubt, we are economically restricted, but the revolution has proved instrumental in bringing out the abilities of Iranians and in making us self-sufficient. The aggressor is always fearful of self-sufficiency in a nation, whether under the shah's regime in Iran or in other aligned countries. When a country becomes self-sufficient and learns to stand on its own feet it does not have any need for foreign goods. This results in losses to the imperialist companies, with accompanying adverse effects on their economic system.

Some examples of Iranian inventions after the revolution are being presented to listeners to acquaint them with the efforts the Islamic Republic of Iran is making toward achieving self-sufficiency:

1. The self-sufficiency of the technicians of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the elimination of the need for foreign advisers.

2. An Iranian inventor has developed a brickmaking machine that makes bricks of a standard size. This machine consists of 1,000 components. A similar foreign machine that was being used consisted of 8,000 components. It is also one-third the size of the foreign machine.

With the cooperation of some Iranian scientists from Iran's industrial research organization, research is being conducted in the manufacture of penicillin at the biochemistry and [word indistinct] control center. The research has been completed, and this medicine will soon be produced in Iran. The raw material will be produced in Iran. The country will not need to import 150,000 kg of antibiotics.

The last thing we want to mention is an Iranian's discovery in which certain herbs can be used to cure a drug addict within 10-15 days.

Those people who believe that religion negates scientific progress and that Islamic movements should be crushed because they are reactionary and retrograde, should know by now that their rumors are baseless and ineffective. People are now seeing how Islam has taken the country along the path toward self-sufficiency and has freed the people from subservience to (?foreigners). God willing, the day is soon coming when the Muslims of the world will prove to the world, by their unity and cooperation, that Islam is the creed of knowledge, action and progress, not the doctrine of dependence or reaction.

TEHRAN POLICE OFFICIAL ON RISING CRIME RATE

NC021902 Paris AFP in English 1524 GMT 2 May 81

[Text] Tehran, 2 May (AFP)--Crime is on the upswing in Tehran, a city of about 7.5 million people, swollen with an influx of refugees and a growing number of unemployed, a police official told the daily ISLAMIC REVOLUTION newspaper in an interview published today.

The most common crimes are burglary and car theft, but the number of armed crimes has also increased, the official said. He said that it was easy for criminals to secure guns at the time of the Islamic revolution in 1979.

He attributed part of the increase in thefts to the fight against drug use, which has pushed up the cost of illicit drugs, forcing narcotics users to scramble for money to support their habit.

Although the size of Tehran's police force has not kept pace with the city's growth, the number of arrests has increased along with the rising crime rate, he said.

One policeman alone had recovered 220 million rials (2.5 million dollars) worth of stolen jewels, he said.

AFP: GUARDS INJURED BY RIOTING WOMEN PRISONERS

NC031216 Paris AFP in English 1206 GMT 3 May 81

[Text] Tehran, 3 May (AFP)--Three guards at Tehran's Evin Prison, whose Islamic faith forbids them to strike women, were seriously hurt by rioting female inmates of the jail, the newspaper ETTELA'AT reported today.

The paper, which published a picture of one guard with an arm in plaster and another with a bandaged head, said a score of prisoners who supported left-wing Islamic militants fought with other inmates over Friday night and Saturday.

They attacked the guards who tried to separate them, and were forced back into their cells only after reinforcements were sent, ETTELA'AT said.

TEHRAN REBUTS IRAQI TV CLAIMS ON DEAD IRANIANS

LD042330 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 4 May 81

[Summary] The mercenary Iraqi regime, now on the verge of collapse, embarks every day on a new plot. Iraqi television today screened a film on naked Iraqi dead and claimed the bodies were Iranian personnel who had been killed in recent clashes near Sar-e Pol-e Zahab and Qasr-e Shirin.

"The Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran hereby declare that the number of Iranians killed in that battle was less than one-tenth of the dead of Saddam's army and the bodies of all the Iranians martyred except seven of them, whose bodies were not found, have been removed from the battle region. Therefore, it is obvious that the bodies filmed by Iraqi television are those of dead Iraqis."

Saddam is trying to deceive the Iraqi people by ordering the removal of the uniforms of his dead personnel and then filming the bodies, showing the film on Iraqi television and claiming the bodies were Iranian.

IRAQI MUJAHIDIN ATTACKS ON KIRKUK REPORTED

LD042340 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 4 May 81

[Text] According to a Central News Bureau report from Kermanshah, in an interview with our correspondent, an informed source said: Iraqi mujahidin attacked the 3d Brigade of the Iraqi special guards in Kirkuk twice last week. During these operations, they succeeded in killing or wounding more than 100 of the special guards and completely destroyed eight trucks belonging to the mercenary Iraqi Army. In these clashes, three Iraqi mujahidin were wounded and the rest returned to their bases safely.

COMMUNIQUE 492 ON 3-4 MAY MILITARY ACTIVITY

LD041824 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 4 May 81

[Communique 492 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. Thanks to the bravery of our Muslim combatants in battle against the mercenaries of the Iraqi Army, Saddam's blasphemous fortresses are being captured by the defenders of the Islamic revolution one after the other. The aggressive enemy is being forced to flee from its positions under the decisive and fatal blows of the forces of Islam. The victory of faith over paganism is coming true. The outcome of the battles on 3 and 4 May and the condition on the southern and western front are as follows:

1. From 0500 this morning on one of the fronts in the Dezful region, the enemy took the offensive but, thanks to the determined resistance of our forces in the region, its attack was neutralized; it was defeated and forced to retreat after some of its soliders were either killed or captured and it suffered considerable material losses.

2. In the Khuninshahr region, the exchange of light and heavy fire continued; the combative heroes of the Navy of the Islamic Republic of Iran brought the positions of Saddam's personnel under fire. During this operation, positions, trenches, ammunition and arms belonging to the enemy mercenaries were destroyed in the occupied section of Khuninshahr.

3. Thanks to the shelling of enemy units west of Ahvaz by the combatants of the Ground Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran, 20 Iraqi soldiers were killed.

On the Abadan front, thanks to the artillery fire of the army of Islam, 1 tank, 1 106-mm gun, 1 enemy building, a number of single bunkers and a number of RPG-7 weapons were destroyed, and 90 of the enemies of Islam were killed or wounded. At the Mahshahr junction on the Abadan front, our combatants killed 20 of the enemy forces.

5. [as heard] Yesterday and today, the criminals of Saddam's regime brought the residential areas of Abadan, Ahvaz and Dezful under artillery and mortar fire; during these savage operations, in addition to material losses and the destruction of houses, some of our dear compatriots were martyred or wounded.

6. The fighters of the Air Force of the Islamic Republic of Iran attacked enemy forces in the Jafir area south of Susangerd and inflicted considerable damages and losses on the forces of Satan.

7. One enemy vehicle column traveling on the Al-Faw-Basra road was brought under fire by the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran. It suffered heavy losses and its progress was stopped.

8. While the enemy was trying to land troops on the (Pir Rostam) heights in Marivan, it was besieged by the combatants of the army and the brave brother guards and brought under fire by the defenders of Islam. During this unexpected operation, at least 100 of Saddam's soldiers were killed and a large number of them were wounded; at lease 23 were captured. Also during these operations, a special operations company from the Kirkuk 7th Division was completely routed, and one Iraqi MiG was hit by antiaircraft fire and crashed on Iraqi territory opposite Marivan. During these operations, thanks to the courage and self-sacrifice of the military and guard brothers, an extremely heavy blow was dealt at the enemy, who had intended to attack. Communications equipment, Kalashnikovs, RPG-7's and large amounts of ammunition were captured by the forces of Islam. In the same region, one patrol group, consisting of army and guard personnel and Muslim Kurdish peshmerga attacked enemy camps, killing three of the enemy forces and injuring others. Meanwhile, about 150 antipersonnel mines were discovered and defused.

9. On the Mehran and Ilam fronts, the initiative belonged to the combatants of the Islamic Republic of Iran. In these regions, one vehicle, one 106-mm gun, two heavy weapons' bunkers, three group bunkers and one enemy minefield were destroyed and nine of the aggressive army of Saddam were killed or wounded.

10. On 2 May, 15 of our faithful navy fighters and 2 of the heroes of the Gendarmerie of the Islamic Republic of Iran were martyred. Their names will be carried forever in the rolls of the heroic.

[Signed] The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

GUARDS REPORT ON RECENT OPERATIONS IN SOUTH, WEST

LD032312 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 3 May 81

[Summary] PARS reports that the guards corps has issued a statement on its operations in the last 2 days:

On the western fronts:

1. One Iraqi plane was fired upon in the Deh Now area and crashed in Iraq.

2. In a clash between the Muslim fighters and the illegal armed groups on the Davan Darreh axis in Saqqez, more than 35 armed assailants were killed and 14 were wounded. Three fuel tankers which had been captured by the assailants were recaptured.

3. In the last 2 days the Iranian forces have shelled enemy position in the [Khormal] region in Iraq as a result of which a number of Iraqis were killed and four garrison buildings in Iraq were destroyed.

4. Three Iraqi soldiers surrendered to Iranian forces in Baneh.

On the southern fronts:

1. On the Abadan front, one enemy ammunition depot and two trenches were destroyed. In Fayyaziyeh, six enemy trenches and foxholes were destroyed and some Iraqi forces were killed. In these operations one guard was wounded.

2. In Khuninshahr, four bunkers of heavy weapons of the Iraqi forces were completely destroyed, along with all their crew. Some enemy trenches were also destroyed.

GENDARMERIE FORCES DESTROY KAN-E SAKHT POST

LD041828 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 4 May 81

[Summary] According to a PARS report from Ilam, one enemy tank, one 130-mm howitzer and one 106-mm recoilless rifle were destroyed by Iranian fire in the Dehlo.an region today. The Iraqis also suffered more than 50 dead or wounded.

Also today, gendarmerie forces completely destroyed the Kan-e Sakht post. They also destroyed 1 mortar position, 4 foxholes and bunkers and killed more than 12 Iraqis elsewhere in Iraq.

In the (Anyazi) area, Iranian artillery fire destroyed three Iraqi cannons and their crews and one enemy ammunition dump, inflicting casualties.

Yesterday, Iranian mortar fire near Meymak destroyed 1 supply vehicle and 9 enemy bunkers, killing more than 11 Iraqis. Also yesterday, four Iranian soldiers were wounded on the Ilam front and were transferred to the Razi Hospital in Ilam.

FLOOD DAMAGE TO KERMAN WHEAT, LIVESTOCK NOTED

LD042026 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 4 May 81

[Summary] Recent floods in Kerman Province have damaged crops, livestock and buildings in Jiroft. Relief teams have already reached the area.

Twenty-five percent of the 22,000 hectares of summer wheat and 30-40 percent of the 10,000 hectares of wheat sown in the cold regions of the province have been damaged. In addition, 30 percent of the province's 1.5 million cattle have suffered.

Villages along the [name indistinct] River are in danger of flooding. The road between [name indistinct] and Jiroft is closed but the road between Kerman and Jiroft, which was closed because of flooding, is now open. No reports of human losses are available but reports indicate that several houses have been damaged.

In Baft, unconfirmed reports indicate that about 4,500 livestock have been killed. The wheat harvest in this region has also suffered, but human losses, if any, have not yet been reported.